

Appln. No.: 10/529,003
Amendment Dated: April 24, 2008
Reply to Office Action of: January 31, 2008

MTS-3547US

Remarks/Arguments:

The title has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the title is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 11 has been amended as required to overcome the § 101 rejection. Claim 12 has been cancelled accordingly. Thus, withdrawal of the § 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Sita et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,539,120) and Kobayashi (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,267). It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Sita discloses an MPEG decoder. The decoder includes an ATV video decoder 121, which includes "a display section to process decoded picture information into a desired picture format." See col. 6, lines 41-45. The ATV video decoder 121 also includes a memory which may support on screen display ("OSD") data. See col. 22, lines 50-51.

Kobayashi discloses a television receiver that mixes incoming video signals having different image resolution formats with OSD data. In order to ensure that the OSD data has an image resolution format compatible with each incoming video signal, the system includes multiple display source memories (17A-17D). See FIG. 12. Each respective display source memory stores OSD data **corresponding to a different image resolution format**. See col. 8, lines 18-48.

Applicant's invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...first image resolution format conversion means of converting decoded image data decoded by said image decoding means to a first image resolution format...

...OSD generating means of **generating OSD only for said first image resolution format**...

...OSD synthesis means of **superimposing said OSD only for said first image resolution format** generated by said OSD generating means and said image data outputted from said first image resolution format conversion means on each other.... (Emphases added).

In the exemplary embodiment described in Applicant's disclosure, this means the first image resolution format conversion means converts signals received by the apparatus to one image resolution format (unless the received signal is already in that format). The OSD generating means generates OSD only for that format. The received signals and the OSD, which have the same image resolution format, are superimposed on each other. This feature is found in the originally filed application at page 27, lines 4-14. No new matter has been added.

As described briefly above, Sita discloses "[a]n optional On-Screen Display (OSD) section in the Memory 130 may be available to support OSD data." See col. 22, lines 50-51. Sita does not, however, elaborate on in what image resolution format or formats the OSD data may be available. Further, as the Examiner admits, Sita does not disclose synthesizing the OSD data with a received signal. Thus, Sita does not disclose "OSD generating means of **generating OSD only for said first image resolution format**" and "OSD synthesis means of **superimposing said OSD only for said first image resolution format** generated by said OSD generating means and said image data outputted from said first image resolution format conversion means on each other," as required by Applicant's claim 1. (Emphases added).

While Kobayashi does elaborate on the image resolution formats of its OSD data, Kobayashi discloses the use of four different memories (17A-17D), each of which stores OSD data in a **different image resolution format**. See FIG. 12 and col. 8, lines 18-48. More specifically, memory 17A stores OSD data having a resolution of vertical 1080 dots and horizontal 1920 dots, memory 17B stores OSD data having a resolution of vertical 1080 dots and horizontal 1440 dots, memory 17C stores OSD data having a resolution of vertical 720 dots and horizontal 1280 dots and memory 17D stores OSD data having a resolution of vertical 480 dots and horizontal 720 dots. Thus, even if Kobayashi does disclose synthesizing OSD data with received signals, Kobayashi does not disclose that the OSD data is generated for only one image resolution format or that OSD data having the only one format is superimposed with

the received signals. Accordingly, Kobayashi also does not disclose "OSD generating means of **generating OSD only for said first image resolution format**" and "OSD synthesis means of **superimposing said OSD only for said first image resolution format** generated by said OSD generating means and said image data outputted from said first image resolution format conversion means on each other," as required by Applicant's claim 1. (Emphases added).

It is because Applicant includes the features of "first image resolution format conversion means of converting decoded image data decoded by said image decoding means to a first image resolution format," "OSD generating means of generating OSD only for said first image resolution format" and "OSD synthesis means of superimposing said OSD only for said first image resolution format generated by said OSD generating means and said image data outputted from said first image resolution format conversion means on each other," that the following advantages are achieved. First, there is no need to convert or store OSD data in multiple image resolution formats corresponding to every signal format that an image decoding apparatus may receive. Instead, the received signals are simply converted into one image resolution format, such that OSD data having only one image resolution format may be synthesized with any received signal. Second, in an exemplary embodiment described in Applicant's specification, the first image resolution format may be a format corresponding to the highest definition image. Accordingly, in the exemplary embodiment, the image resolution format corresponding to the highest definition image may be displayed without conversion.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Independent claims 10 and 11, while not identical to claim 1, includes features similar to claim 1. Accordingly, claims 10 and 11 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1.

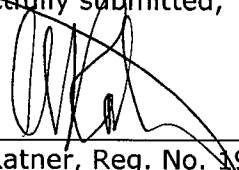
Claims 2-9 include all the features of claim 1 from which they depend. Thus, claims 2-9 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

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In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan Ratner', is written over a horizontal line.

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